


Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) 3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)		Application Number N t yet assigned	
				Applicant Raymond J. Beffa			
				Filing Date March 2, 2004		Group Art Unit Unknown	



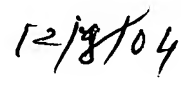
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<i>RL</i> 	4,958,373	09/1990	Usami et al.			
	4,967,381	10/1990	Lane et al.			
	5,103,166	04/1992	Joan et al.			
	5,105,362	04/1992	Kotani			
	5,217,834	06/1993	Higaki			
	5,219,765	06/1993	Yoshida et al.			
	5,226,118	07/1993	Baker et al.			
	5,271,796	12/1993	Miyashita et al.			
	5,289,113	02/1994	Meaney et al			
	5,294,812	03/1994	Hashimoto et al.			
	5,301,143	04/1994	Ohri et al.			
	5,420,796	05/1995	Weling et al.			
	5,440,493	08/1995	Doida			
	5,442,561	08/1995	Yoshizawa et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
<i>RL</i>	5-74909	03/1993	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS		(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
<i>RL</i>		Abstract from JP 5-74909, in English, comprising a concise explanation of the relevance of JP-74909 as required by 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3).

EXAMINER <i>Remedy Patel</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>12/8/04</i>
-------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449			Docket Number (Optional) 3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)		Application Number Not yet assigned	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			Applicant Raymond J. Beffa			
(Use several sheets if necessary)			Filing Date March 2, 2004		Group Art Unit Unknown	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,450,326	09/1995	Black	—	—	
	5,467,304	11/1995	Uchida et al.	—	—	
	5,483,175	01/1996	Ahmad et al.	—	—	
	5,495,417	02/1996	Fuduka et al.	—	—	
	5,504,369	04/1996	Dasse et al.	—	—	
	5,511,005	04/1996	Abbe et al.	—	—	
	5,568,408	10/1996	Maeda	—	—	
	5,844,803	12/1998	Beffa	—	—	
	5,856,923	01/1999	Jones et al.	—	—	
	5,895,962	04/1999	Zheng et al.	—	—	
	5,907,492	05/1999	Akram et al.	—	—	
	5,915,231	06/1999	Beffa	—	—	
	5,917,512	07/1999	Beffa	—	—	
	5,927,512	07/1999	Beffa	—	—	
	6,067,507	05/2000	Beffa	—	—	
	6,122,563	09/2000	Beffa	—	—	
	6,147,316	11/2000	Beffa	—	—	
	6,363,329	03/2002	Beffa	—	—	
6,529,793	03/2003	Beffa	—	—		
6,594,611	07/2003	Beffa	—	—		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; width: 100%; height: 100%; border: 1px solid black;"></div> </div>						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			
						
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.</small>						



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/791,193
Filing Date	March 2, 2004
First Named Inventor	Raymond J. Beffa
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
RE ↓		US-6,350,959	02/2002	Beffa	
		US- 6,373,011	04/2002	Beffa	
		US- 6,636,068	10/2003	Farnworth et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
Signature

Renee Patel

Date
Considered

12/8/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

OIPE
 SEP 16 2004
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

(2-92)

Sheet 1 of 7

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)	Application Number 10/791,193
	Applicant Raymond J. Beffa	
	Filing Date March 2, 2004	Group Art Unit 2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
RL	4,032,949	06/28/1977	Bierig			
	4,455,495	06/19/1984	Masuhara et al.			
	4,510,673	04/16/1985	Shils et al.			
	4,534,014	08/06/1985	Ames			
	4,667,403	05/26/1987	Edinger et al.			
	4,871,963	10/03/1989	Cozzi			
	4,954,453	09/04/1990	Venutolo			
	5,003,251	03/26/1991	Fuoco			
	5,110,754	05/05/1992	Lowrey et al.			
	5,235,550	08/10/1993	Zagar			
	5,253,208	10/1993	Kang			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
RL	JP 58050728 A	03/25/1983	Mitsubishi Electric Corp.			X	
	JP 58060529 A	04/11/1983	Mitsubishi Electric Corp.			X	
	JP 61120433 A	06/07/1986	Toshiba Corp.			X	
	JP 05013529 A	01/22/1993	NEC Kyushu Ltd.			X	
	JP 10104315 A	04/24/1998	NEC Corp.			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER <i>Ramsey Patel</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>10/8/04</i>
---------------------------------	-----------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)		Application Number 10/791,193	
				Applicant Raymond J. Beffa			
				Filing Date March 2, 2004		Group Art Unit 2121	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<i>RL</i> 	5,256,562	10/26/1993	Vu et al.	—	—	
	5,256,578	10/1993	Corley et al.	—	—	
	5,296,402	03/22/1994	Ryou	—	—	
	5,345,110	09/06/1994	Renfro et al.	—	—	
	5,352,945	10/04/1994	Casper et al.	—	—	
	5,355,320	10/1994	Erjavic et al.	—	—	
	5,424,652	06/13/1995	Hembree et al.	—	—	
	5,428,311	06/27/1995	McClure	—	—	
	5,440,240	08/1995	Wood et al.	—	—	
	5,477,493	12/19/1995	Danbayashi	—	—	
	5,516,028	05/14/1996	Rasp et al.	—	—	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
<i>RL</i> 	SU 1151333 A	04/23/1985	Tsvetnoj Metallurgii	—	—	x	

OTHER DOCUMENTS		(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER <i>Ramona Patel</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>10/8/04</i>
------------------------------	--------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)		Application Number 10/791,193	
				Applicant Raymond J. Beffa			
				Filing Date March 2, 2004		Group Art Unit 2121	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,537,325	07/1996	Iwakiri et al.			
	5,538,141	07/23/1996	Gross, Jr. et al.			
	5,539,235	07/23/1996	Allee			
	5,563,832	10/08/1996	Kagami			
	5,570,293	10/1996	Tanaka et al.			
	5,581,510	12/03/1996	Furusho et al.			
	5,590,069	12/31/1996	Levin			
	5,600,171	02/04/1997	Makihara et al.			
	5,603,412	02/18/1997	Gross, Jr. et al.			
	5,606,193	02/25/1997	Ueda et al.			
	5,617,366	04/01/1997	Yoo			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS			(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER Remesh Patel	DATE CONSIDERED 12/8/04
------------------------------	--------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)	Application Number 10/791,193
	Applicant Raymond J. Beffa	
	Filing Date March 2, 2004	Group Art Unit 2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<i>RL</i>	5,619,469	04/08/1997	Joo			
	5,625,816	04/1997	Burdick et al.			
	5,642,307	06/24/1997	Jernigan			
	5,726,074	03/1998	Yabe			
	5,764,650	06/1998	Debenham			
	5,787,190	07/1998	Peng et al.			
	5,801,965	09/1998	Takagi et al.			
	5,828,778	10/1998	Hagi et al.			
	5,865,319	02/02/1999	Okuda et al.			
	5,867,505	02/1999	Beffa			
	5,889,674	03/1999	Burdick et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

Romesh Patel

DATE CONSIDERED

12/8/04

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not consider d. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)	Application Number 10/791,193
	Applicant Raymond J. Beffa	
	Filing Date March 2, 2004	Group Art Unit 2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,963,881	10/1999	Kahn et al.			
	5,991,699	11/1999	Kulkarni et al.			
	6,000,830	12/1999	Asano et al.			
	6,018,686	01/2000	Orso et al.			
	6,049,624	04/2000	Wilson et al.			
	6,055,463	04/25/2000	Cheong et al.			
	6,072,574	06/2000	Zeimantz			
	6,075,216	06/13/2000	Nakamura et al.			
	6,100,486	08/2000	Beffa			
	6,138,256	10/2000	Debenham			
	6,148,307	11/2000	Burdick et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER 	DATE CONSIDERED
---------------------	----------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)		Application Number 10/791,193	
				Applicant Raymond J. Beffa			
				Filing Date March 2, 2004		Group Art Unit 2121	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<i>RL</i> 	6,190,972 B1	02/20/2001	Zheng et al.			
	6,194,738 B1	02/27/2001	Debenham et al.			
	6,208,947 B1	03/2001	Beffa			
	6,219,810	04/2001	Debenham			
	6,226,394	05/2001	Wilson et al.			
	6,259,520 B1	07/2001	Zeimantz			
	6,307,171 B1	10/23/2001	Beffa			
	6,363,295	03/2002	Akram			
	6,365,421 B2	04/02/2002	Debenham et al.			
	6,365,860 B1	04/02/2002	Beffa			
	6,365,861 B1	04/02/2002	Beffa			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS			(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER <i>Randy Patel</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>12/9/04</i>
-----------------------------	--------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 2269-3039.4US (96-0969.04/US)	Application Number 10/791,193
	Applicant Raymond J. Beffa	
	Filing Date March 2, 2004	Group Art Unit 2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
JL	6,373,566 B2	04/2002	Zeimantz			
	6,400,840	06/2002	Wilson et al.			
	6,427,092	07/2002	Jones et al.			
	6,437,271 B1	08/20/2002	Beffa			
	6,441,897 B1	08/2002	Zeimantz			
	6,504,123	01/2003	Beffa			
	6,553,276 B2	04/2003	Akram et al.			
	6,588,854	07/2003	Wilson et al.			
	6,703,573 B2	03/09/2004	Beffa			
	2004/024551	02/2004	Beffa			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

Remedy Patel

DATE CONSIDERED

12/9/04

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☐ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.